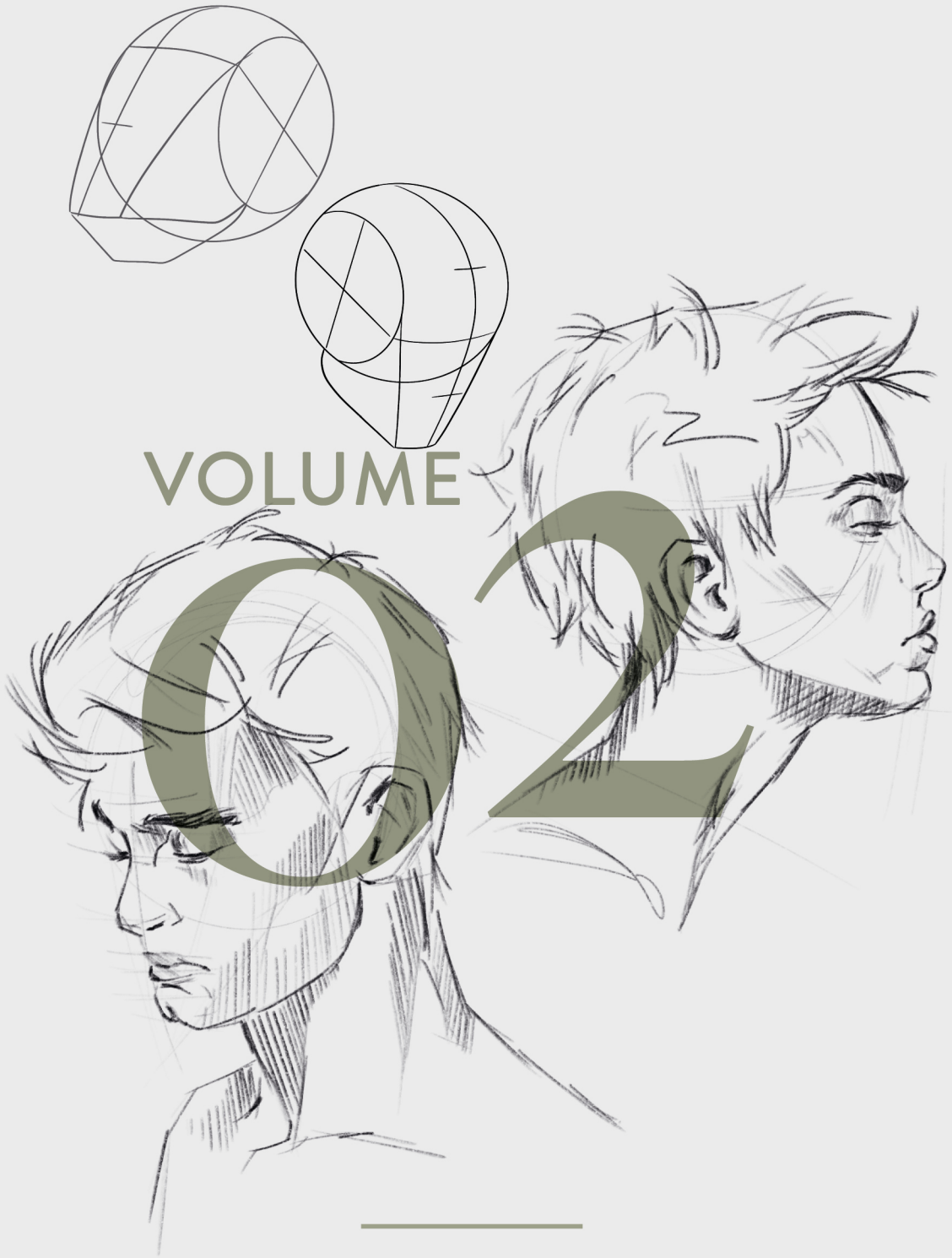


VOLUME

02

HOW TO DRAW
THE HEAD

BY LAURA H. RUBIN

VOLUME
02

HOW TO DRAW THE HEAD
WITH THE LOOMIS METHOD

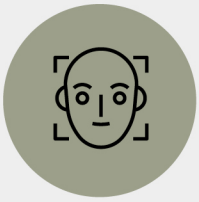
Welcome to volume **two**!

In this volume you will learn how to use the Loomis method correctly in relation to the head and face. Through repetitive tasks you can also develop a routine that will help you to remember what you have learned.

THIS VOLUME CONTAINS **3 CHAPTERS**

What is the Loomis Method?

How to draw the Loomis Head



How to draw the Loomis Face

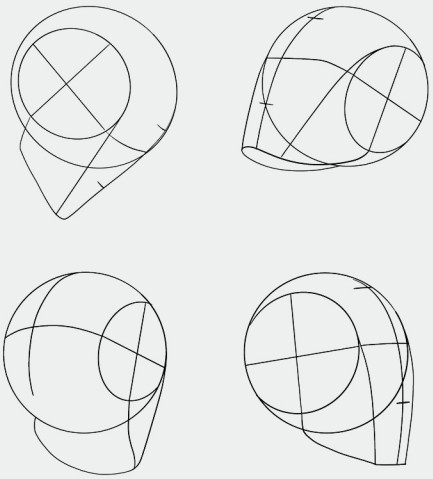
THE LOOMIS METHOD

The first thing I asked myself when I heard about the Loomis Method was: WHAT THE HECK IS LOOMIS!?

The Loomis Method was developed by **William Andrew Loomis** (1892–1959), an American illustrator, author and art instructor. His commercial work was featured prominently in advertising and magazines.

Loomis is best known as author of a series of instructional art books printed throughout the 20th century. Long after his death, Loomis' realistic style has continued to influence popular artists.

So the Loomis method actually describes how to create a **basic grid** for (e.g.) a head or a face so you can use this grid to create an individual character from any perspective.



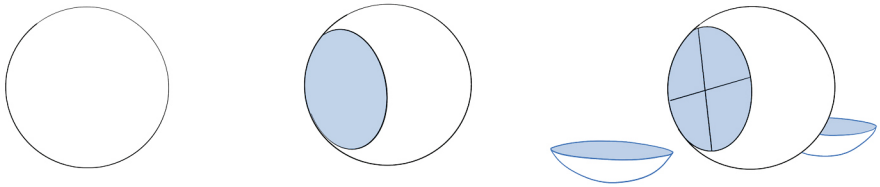
Beautiful painting by Andrew Loomis, representing the Dionne quintuplets.

»Two Women«
by Andrew Loomis

THE LOOMIS HEAD

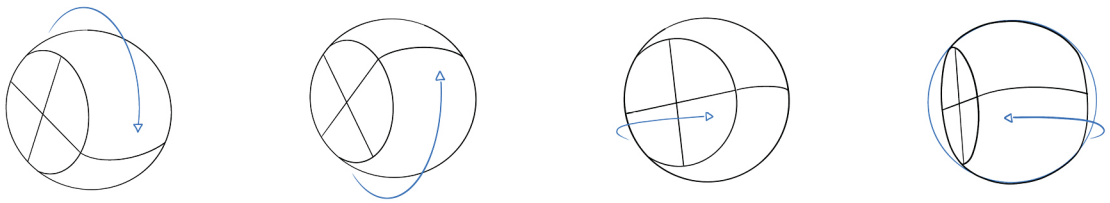
If we want to draw a head from any angle, we must understand the basic shapes of the head. We must be able to see the shapes that are hidden behind the face.

We start with a sphere and cut off one piece each on the left and right.



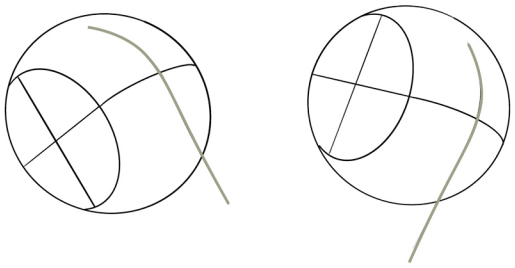
USE THIS SPACE FOR DRAWING

Turn your cropped sphere in different directions to get a feeling for the perspectives.

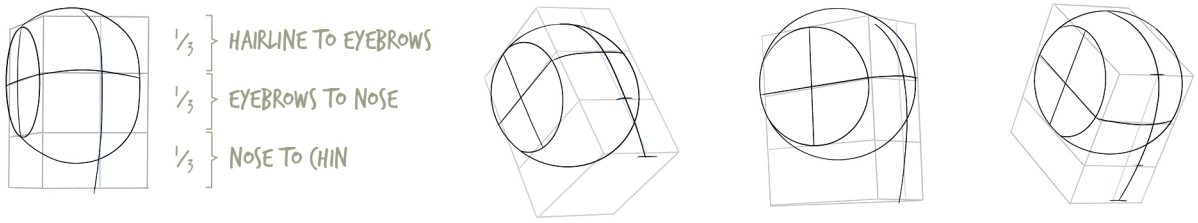


Next we define the central line of the face.

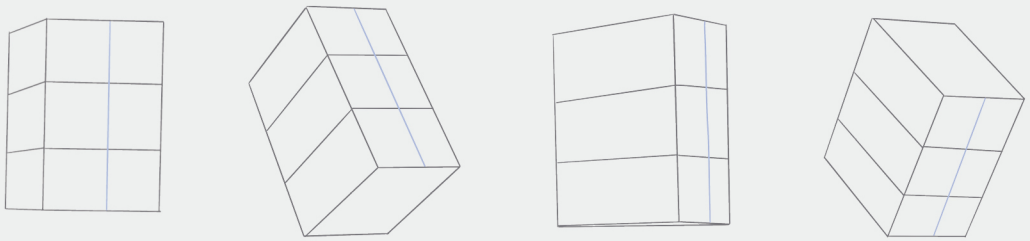
Make sure that the line is exactly in the middle of the sphere, between the cropped parts. Next, it is important to understand how long this line must be, because it defines the length of the face ...



To prevent that line from coming out too long or too short, we first make a segmented cube and use it as a visual guide:

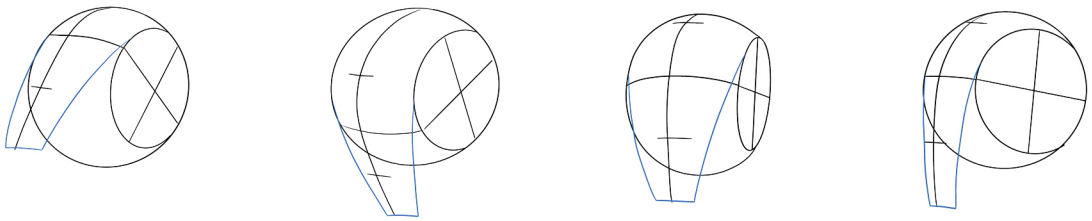


DRAW IN THE CUBES > AS SHOWN ABOVE

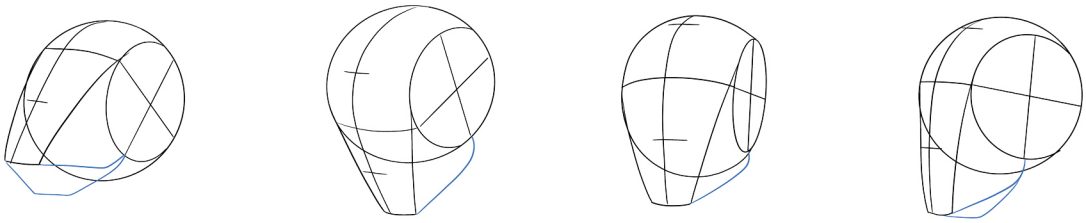


NOW TRY TO DRAW THE CENTRAL LINE WITHOUT THE CUBES:

Now we can define the cheek lines.
TAKE YOUR TIME. I know, it's boring to draw the heads from different sides again and again but this will develop a certain routine and the shapes will become more memorable for you!

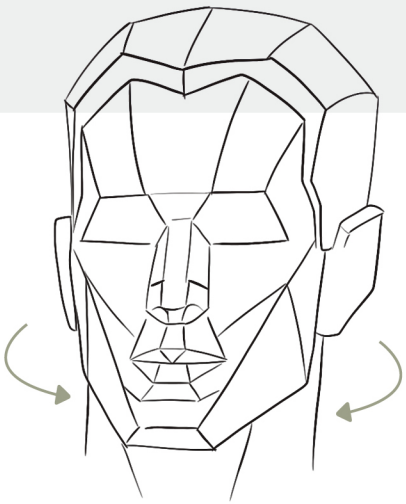


Now let's add the chin and you've done it!



THE LOOMIS FACE

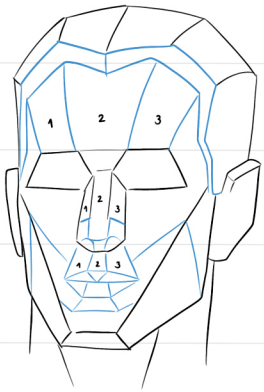
Let's try something more difficult: **The Loomis face**.
Now you know how to create the Loomis head and we can build on that and try to add a face.



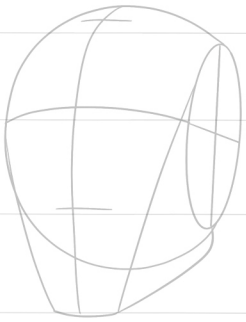
THE LOOMIS FACE SHOULD NOT REPRESENT A FINISHED FACE, BUT SHOW HOW TO PROPORTION IT CORRECTLY. ALTHOUGH THE LOOMIS FACE LOOKS VERY MASCULINE, THIS METHOD WORKS THE SAME FOR THE FEMALE FACE. YOU JUST HAVE TO DRAW THE NECK AND CHIN A LITTLE BIT NARROWER.

Exercise: Use the grey Loomis heads below as templates to redraw the face as in the example.
Try to draw also in the ***cube grid*** and the ***1/3 grid***.

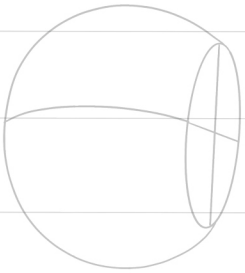
EXAMPLE:



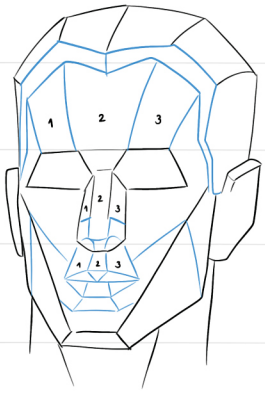
DRAW HERE:



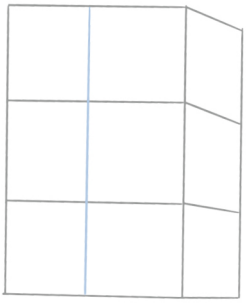
...AND HERE:



EXAMPLE:



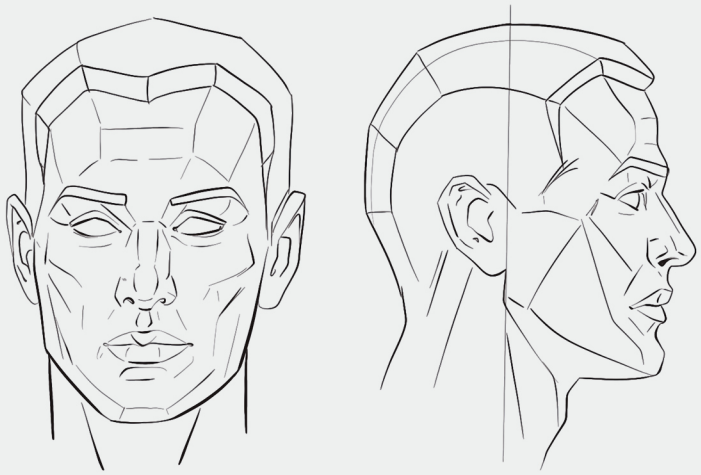
CUBE GRID



1/3 GRID

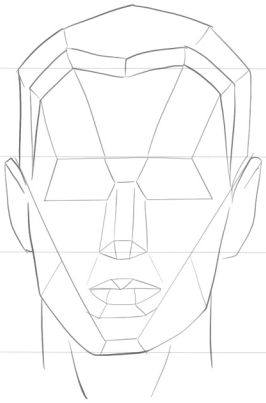
Now we can try to put together the final face.

If you still have difficulties with that: Don't worry, there are more practice sheets on the coming pages.

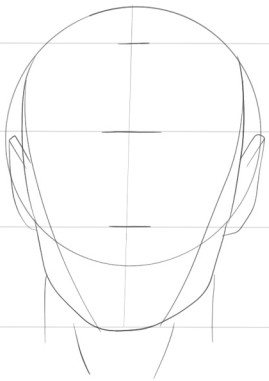


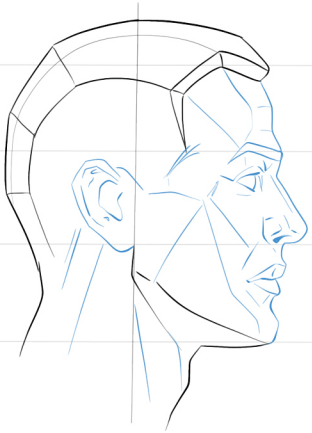
EXAMPLE:

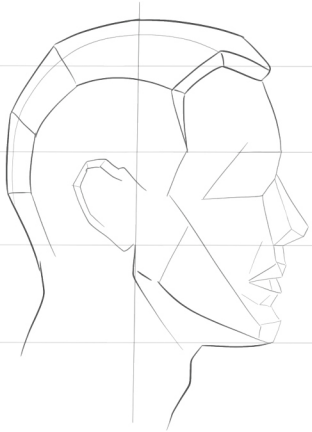
DRAW HERE:

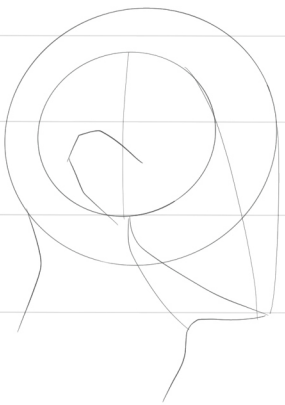


...AND HERE:







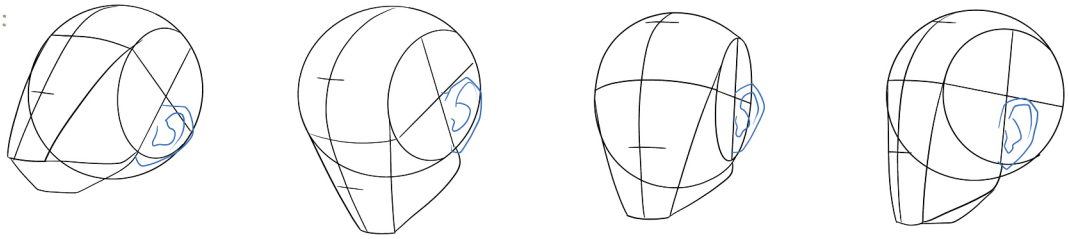


EXERCISES

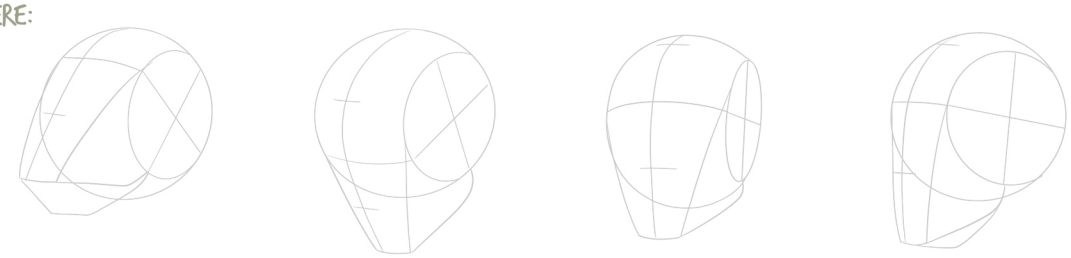
If the Loomis face seems too complicated to you, you can also try drawing directly into the Loomis head:

Draw the **ear** in the right place.
Use the light grey Loomis heads as a guide.

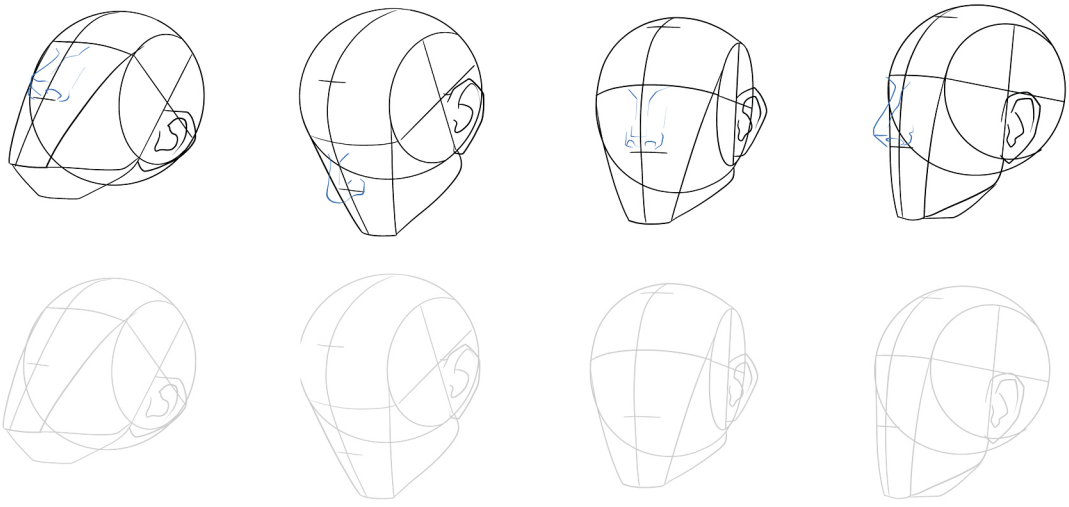
EXAMPLES:



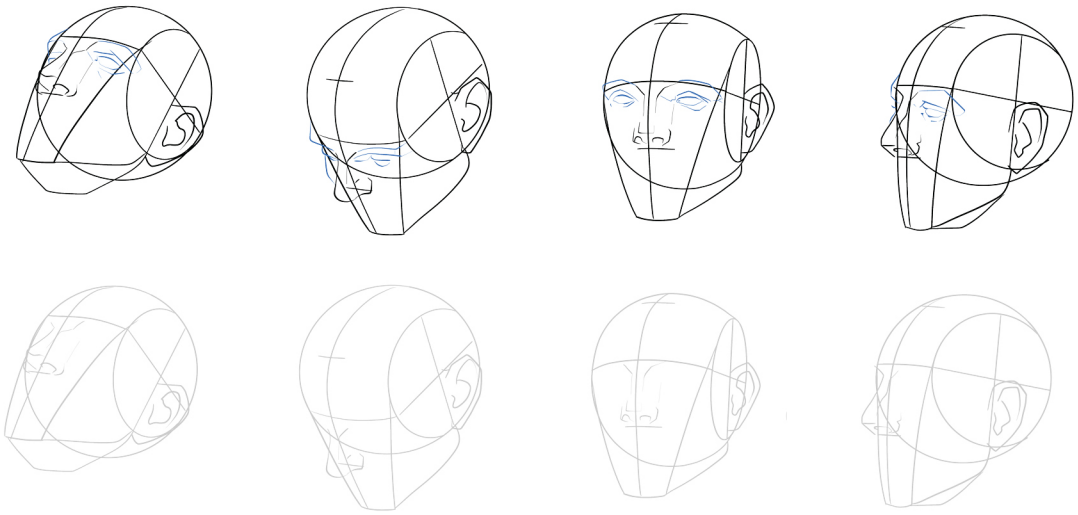
DRAW HERE:



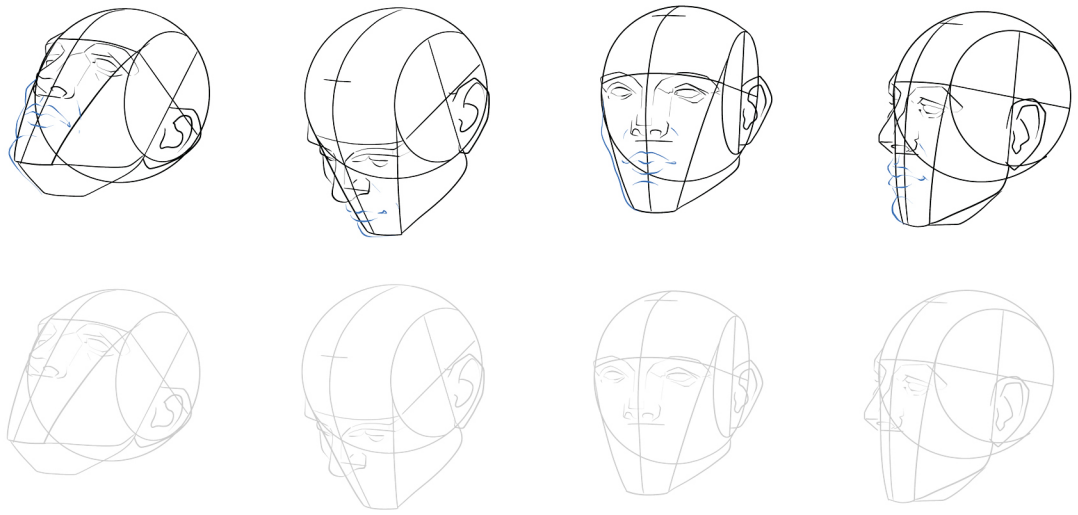
The same now with the **nose**.



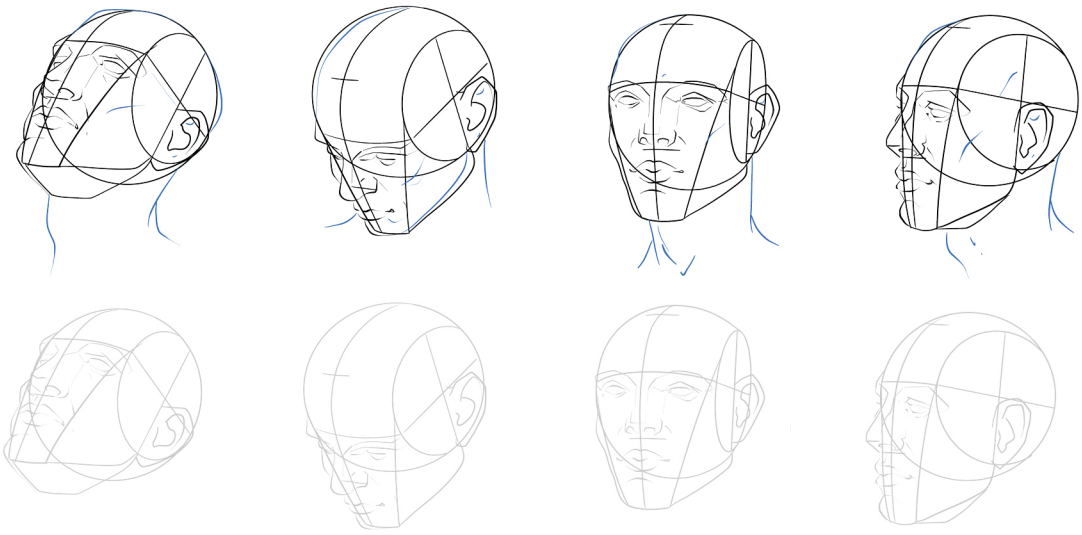
The same with the **eyes**.



The same with the **mouth**.

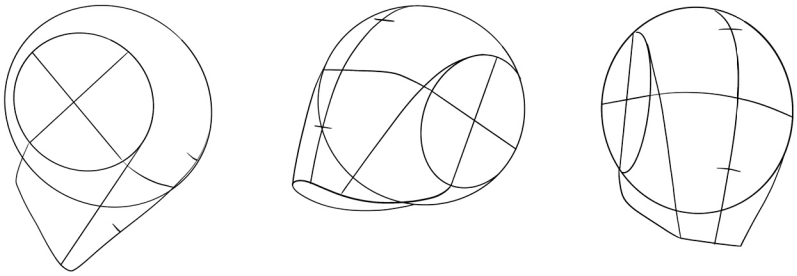


The same with the **neck** and final **details**.

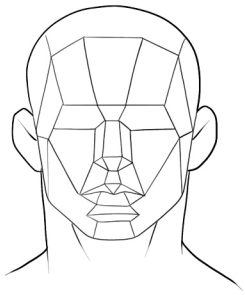


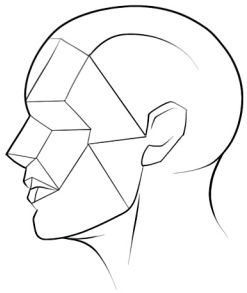
...and the face is finished. WELL DONE!

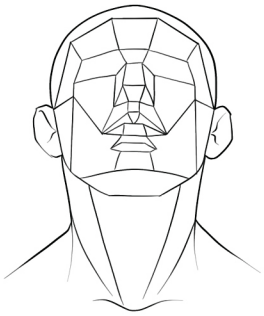
Let's briefly repeat the steps:
Try to redraw these 3 Loomis **heads**



Try to redraw these 3 Loomis **heads** and **faces.** Sketch a little bit around to find out where your strengths and weaknesses lie in order to optimise them further.







WELL DONE!

I hope you have learned something and found out where your strengths and weaknesses lie, so you can improve them with further exercises!

Please note that all of these methods are merely aids that you can use however you want. So, to get good results you don't necessarily have to do everything exactly the same way. It is best to keep practicing exercises like the ones you have already done. You'll soon see: Over time, you will automatically adapt these methods perfectly according to your strengths and weaknesses.

Thus, your own style will develop over time, if that hasn't already happened :)

I really hope this chapter was helpful for you!
If you liked it, I would be very pleased to receive a positive rating <3
If you have any feedback or questions, please contact me on ***www.laurahrubin.com***

xo